

CLAIMS

An improved, flexible training wheel assembly to be fitted to the rear wheel axle of a bicycle for providing lateral dynamic stability of the bicycle, a pair of such wheel assemblies to be used

5 concurrently on opposite sides of the rear wheel, each said wheel assembly comprising:

- An auxiliary wheel attached to the lower arm,
 - A lower arm,
 - A visco-elastic connector attached to the lower arm and the upper bracket,
 - An upper bracket attached to the visco-elastic connector at the lower end and
- 10 removeably attached to the bicycle axle at the top end.

1.1 The upper bracket having a slotted hole to allow vertical adjustment of the wheel assembly to allow adjustment of the amount of pre-load applied to the flexible joint, to suit the weight and / or skill level of the rider.

1.2 The visco-elastic connector having a spring effect to allow the rider to lean the bicycle

15 when turning but to progressively oppose the lean of the bicycle, to assist the novice to maintain balance.

1.3 The visco-elastic connector having an inherent damping effect to absorb energy and damp out undesirable oscillation / vibration.

1.4 The visco-elastic connector having greater stiffness of the spring character in the fore and

20 aft direction to ensure that the training wheel remains substantially parallel to the bicycle rear wheel during use. This may be achieved by having two axi-symmetric connectors side by side (in fore and aft direction) or by having a single connector with significantly greater dimension in the fore-aft direction than in the lateral direction.